

Speaker, to support for our late and dear friend and colleague, Dr. Charlie Norwood.

Earlier this year we passed a bill honoring Dr. Norwood by naming a VA Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, the heart of his congressional district, in honor of the great work that he did on behalf of our veterans.

I think my colleagues, Madam Speaker, know that Charlie Norwood served as a dental officer in Vietnam, in combat, got two Bronze Stars, I think a medical combat award. He was a great spokesperson on behalf of our veterans.

But also, in regard to health care, before I was even thinking about running for this great office that I hold now, Madam Speaker, Charlie Norwood had that Patient Bill of Rights. I think a lot of my colleagues would remember that. Madam Speaker, you indeed probably were here at that time. And so this is just another opportunity for us, not just to honor Dr. Norwood, but to realize that he worked so diligently on behalf of veterans issues and health care issues. So it's a great honor to be here today.

And I'll tell you, on a personal note, my colleagues, Madam Speaker, I have a senior legislative assistant, Josh Waller, whose dad, Jerry, last year died while on a waiting list for a liver transplant. That was awfully painful for me to watch that happen to the dad of one of my great staff members. So this is a wonderful opportunity for us to do something really good for these people that Representative DEAL, Representative INSLEE described that are on these waiting lists, that suffer dialysis. And as Representative DEAL pointed out, the Senate amendment just changed it a little bit so that other organs, other than kidneys, indeed, Dr. Norwood himself, as Representative INSLEE pointed out, was the recipient of a lung transplant. Unfortunately, it did not work for him. But God bless him. And I'm proud to be here today to support this bill. I urge all of my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I urge the unanimous adoption of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 837.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1733

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) at 5 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.

MOTION TO GO TO CONFERENCE ON H.R. 2082, INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1 of rule XXII and by direction of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I move to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2082) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The motion was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. HOEKSTRA

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct conferees.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Hoekstra moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 2082 be instructed, to the maximum extent possible within the scope of the conference, to—

(1) eliminate any House or Senate provisions providing for earmarks as defined in clause 9(d) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives; and

(2) insist on provisions authorizing the maximum level of funding permissible for human intelligence collection activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XXII, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this motion to instruct is about priorities. America continues to face threats. We are engaged in a global struggle against radical jihadists. For a time of war, for a time of threats like this, the priorities of portions of this intelligence bill are completely misplaced in critical areas.

The motion to instruct would make our priorities clearer by eliminating provisions providing for earmarks and by ensuring the maximum level of funding for increasing human intelligence collection.

Our intelligence programs should be based on only one primary consideration: what best ensures that the intelligence community is able to do its job in the best interest of the national security of the United States.

This motion would ensure that we are appropriating and authorizing funding on a bipartisan basis to critical human intelligence programs based on the merit of these programs and the intelligence we learn from them.

The unclassified National Intelligence Estimate's key judgments released publicly just yesterday illustrate how important intelligence gathering is to our national security. As we take a look at where we want to put our priorities, it is clear from what we have learned and what we understand in this committee the importance of putting resources, the necessary resources on human intelligence, and to remove them from earmarks, Members' pet projects, which don't necessarily always go through the rigorous process necessary to ensure that the funding for these projects and these programs is appropriate.

I encourage my colleagues to vote for this motion to instruct to make sure that we put the resources where they will make maximum benefit to the intelligence community.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to instruct, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this motion is not about policy. It is not even about priorities; it is about politics. This bill that we passed, this bill that passed the House, the bill we are talking about tonight, is legislation that sets unprecedented levels of commitment for our intelligence community, to the professionals who are charged with keeping this country safe. It sets the priorities for human intelligence. It sets record levels and expenditures from the House so that those professionals that are charged with keeping us safe, keeping this Nation secure, have the necessary resources to do that job.

This legislation also prioritizes the issue of diversifying the intelligence workforce. This legislation protects this country. This legislation prioritizes those issues that are vitally important that we pass here tonight.

So for those reasons and because for the first time in history we have had care and process with this legislation, setting record levels of expenditures for our intelligence community, I urge all my colleagues to vote "no" on the motion.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.